

Vision Statement and Action Plan For the Willamette Neighborhood of West Linn

This document is a result of many neighborhood "visioning" brainstorming meetings, written surveys (120) from the Willamette Neighborhood Night-Out, the West Linn Old Time Fair and the Willamette Arts Festival and Email responses as well as additional input from community members. The follow-up survey results validated the final version of the vision with resounding support.

This document, created by the Willamette Neighborhood Association (WNA) contains:

- ✓ Willamette Neighborhood Vision Statement
- ✓ Willamette Neighborhood Vision Descriptions
- ✓ Tactical Plans: Prioritized City and Neighborhood Efforts
- ✓ Detailed Tactical Plans by Goal with Task Forces

By adopting this plan the City of West Linn pledges to carry out the goals and policies spelled out in this document. The City pledges to consider the action measures proposed for implementing the goals and policies, but is not required to implement them as written.

Willamette Neighborhood Association (WNA) Planning Committee:

Stefanie Becker	Jody Carson	Stephanie Nicoletti	And Many others...
Franny Heald	Edward Springman	Vicki Handy-Dunstan	
Carol Truffo	Larry Tonks	John Lightowler	
David Lawrence	Don Wood	Chris Henry	

Facilitation: Paul Koch

Vision Statement for the Willamette Neighborhood of the City of West Linn

Willamette is a safe neighborhood with a strong sense of community and connectivity. The most unique aspect of Willamette is its ability to retain a small-town feel with a designated historic district, while maintaining connection with surrounding communities.

Those elements that make Willamette neighborhood special and reflect the Willamette neighbors' values are seen in this plan's commitments. The Willamette Neighborhood is committed to:

1. Safety for the community
2. Education and activities for children and adults.
3. Vibrant business growth, consistent with Willamette's historical downtown area standards
4. Communication and involvement with Willamette's citizens
5. Respectful use and care for the environment including the neighborhood, river, parks and trails
6. Well thought out neighborhood planning which sustains the value of the community.
7. Systematic and fiscally responsible long-term planning, working with the neighborhood, community, city, county, and state partners.

Strategic Plan for Willamette Neighborhood of West Linn:

1. GOAL 1: Safety for the community

Policy:

- § Maintain and support West Linn's police and fire services.
- § Willamette's historic downtown area and other commercial areas have excellent lighting and parking.
- § Sidewalks or pathways on Willamette's neighborhood streets provide access to neighborhood destinations.

Recommended action measures include:

- § Add sidewalks or pathways to priority sections: Willamette Falls Drive from HWY 43 to Fields Bridge and Blankenship; parks, schools and businesses.
- § Bike paths along sidewalks where possible.

2. GOAL 2: Education and activities for children and adults

Policy:

- § The City and neighborhood will continue support of the annual "Old Time Fair"
- § The City and neighborhood will continue support of the annual Willamette Arts Festival
- § The City and neighborhood will continue to support and protect the students of Willamette Primary and other neighboring schools.
- § Willamette's parks host a wide variety of activities and sports.

Recommended action measures include:

- § Provision of a multifaceted community center.
- § A community pool built by the City of West Linn.
- § Adult volunteering and involvement in the school activities.

3. GOAL 3: Vibrant business growth, consistent with Willamette's historic downtown area standards
Policy:

- Maintain strict standards and codes regarding the structures in Willamette's business areas.

Recommended action measures include:

- § The City and neighborhood aggressively pursue the businesses and restaurants that bring tasteful value to Willamette.
- § The City and neighborhood aggressively discourages growth of large chain wholesale or discount stores.
- § The City uses planters and landscaping to beautify Willamette's neighborhood streets.

4. GOAL 4: Communication and involvement with Willamette's citizens.

Policy:

- § Willamette has an active Neighborhood Association that listens to all input, actively engages those impacted by decisions, employs behaviors that treat all with respect, and works collaboratively with City leaders to plan effectively.

Recommended action measures include:

- § The City has up-to-date information on the Web.
- § Willamette neighbors use the West Linn Tidings and the Metro West Linn segment of the Oregonian for news and information.

5. GOAL 5: Respectful use and care for the environment including the neighborhood, river, parks and trails

Recommended action measures include:

- § The City and neighborhood support environmentally friendly solutions and recycling.
- § The City and neighborhood maintain Willamette's rivers, parks and connecting trails.
- § The City and neighborhood partner to develop the beauty and access of the Willamette Falls area.
- § The Willamette neighborhood has a trail system along the Willamette River.
- § Willamette is part of the systematic planning for West Linn Parks and Recreation.
- § Willamette has a dog park, family parks and sports fields.
- § The City and neighborhood try to save and actively plant trees and local flora throughout Willamette.
- § Field's Park will grow to both sides of Willamette Falls Drive.

6. GOAL 6: Well thought out neighborhood planning which sustains the value of the community.

Policy:

- § Willamette uses transition zones between the historic and other business districts and the surrounding residential neighborhood.
- § Willamette's freeway, neighborhood and business access is effective, efficient and safe for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Recommended action measures include:

- § Willamette has a neighborhood public transportation that focuses on connectivity
- § Development needs to be consistent with the value of the area.
- § Developers need to take ownership for impact to the infrastructure such as streets, sidewalks, schools, water, sewer, etc.
- § The City and the neighborhood will encourage development that sustains a livable environment with homes with lot sizes that add value and beauty to the neighborhood.
- § The City and the neighborhood will sponsor a farmers market
- § Utility lines are underground.

7. GOAL 7: Systemic and fiscally responsible long-term planning, working with the neighborhood, community, city, county, and state partners.

Recommended action measures include:

- § Changes in Willamette will occur in multiple "phases" that will eventually reach the neighborhood's goals within financial and legal boundaries.
- § The City Planning Department and Willamette neighborhood are partners for effective planning in all of West Linn.
- § The Willamette neighbors abide by and actively influence improvement to the regulations, laws and initiatives that impact Willamette.

TACTICAL PLANNING:

PRIORIZED ACTION: Prioritized Efforts in partnership with City of West Linn

1. Develop code language for the transitional zone which incorporates business and residential uses
2. Sidewalk Plan Implemented
3. Create an Inter-Neighborhood planning group to develop a vision and action plan for use and access of Willamette Falls area.
4. Traffic Control Plan Developed and Initiated
5. Become a Certified Local Government to enable Willamette neighbors to request grant funds for historic preservation
6. Aggressive exploration of funding sources for Willamette's vision.

TACTICAL PLAN IN DETAIL BY GOAL:

Goal #1: Safety for the community

Policy:

- § Maintain and support West Linn's police and fire services.
- § Willamette's historic downtown area and other commercial areas have excellent lighting and parking.
- § Sidewalks or pathways on Willamette's neighborhood streets provide access to neighborhood destinations.

Recommended action measures include:

- § Add sidewalks or pathways to priority sections: Willamette Falls Drive from HWY 43 to Fields Bridge and Blankenship; parks, schools and businesses.
- § Bike paths along sidewalks where possible.

Recommended Action Measure:

Vision Element	Actions to create reality	Partners for Implementation
Willamette's historic downtown area and other commercial areas have excellent lighting and parking.	WNA define the criteria	WNA
	Develop scope and cost of project with alternatives if necessary	City Planners
Sidewalks or pathways and bike paths front all of Willamette's major streets and provide access to neighborhood destinations.	Create master plan of sidewalks and bike paths that connect major sites (Willamette Primary, Willamette Park, Fields Park, Willamette Falls, and Willamette Marketplace). Highest priority is to have sidewalks or pathways along Willamette Falls Drive between Fields Bridge Park and the Historic Commercial District and the second priority is on Blankenship under the highway overpass connecting to both sides of neighborhood.	WNA Task Force with City Planners
	Develop scope and cost of project with alternatives if necessary; generate funding options	City Planners
	Break project into prioritized "phases"	City Planners & WNA
	Communicate to those impacted and ask for input	WNA
Traffic Control around business areas	Create a plan to better control traffic in the Old Willamette neighborhood and other commercial districts.	WNA and City Planning Department

Sidewalk Taskforce Members: Karin O'Brien, Vicki Handy-Dunstan, Bob Miller, Ed Springman

GOAL #2: Education and activities for children and adults

Policy:

- § The City and neighborhood will continue support of the annual "Old Time Fair"
- § The City and neighborhood will continue our support of the annual Willamette Arts Festival
- § The City and neighborhood will continue support and protect the students of Willamette Primary and other neighboring schools.
- § Willamette's parks host a wide variety of activities and sports.

Recommended action measures include:

- § Provision of a multifaceted community center.
- § A community pool built by the City of West Linn.
- § Adults volunteer and are involved in the school activities.

Recommended Action Measure:

Vision Element	Actions to create reality	Partners for Implementation
Continue our annual "Old Time Fair"	Continue current planning including Parade	Fair Board WNA
Art Festival	Continue current involvement	
Protect and Support Willamette Primary Students	Proceed with Sidewalk plan (see #1)	City Planners
Adult Volunteer Programs	Continue as school volunteers	Willamette Primary
	Continue with neighborhood volunteer coordination	City Volunteer Coordinator
	Continue volunteer maintenance of historic district landscaping	Carol Truffo
Activity and sports in parks	Continue activities through Parks and Recreation	Parks and Recreation
Aquatic Center	Long Term plan TBD	WNA, Parks & Rec.
Community Center	Long term plan TBD	WNA, Parks & Rec., West Linn School Dist., City Planners, Retirement Communities, Etc.
	Look into sites for this purpose	City & WNA

Community Events Task Forces divided by event

Goal #3: Vibrant business growth, consistent with Willamette’s historical downtown area standards

Policy:

Maintain strict standards and codes regarding the structures in Willamette's business areas.

Recommended action measures include:

§ The City and neighborhood aggressively pursue the businesses and restaurants that bring tasteful value to Willamette.

§ The City and neighborhood aggressively discourages growth of large chain wholesale or discount stores.

§ The City uses planters and landscaping to beautify Willamette’s neighborhood streets.

Recommended Action Measure:

Vision Element	Actions to create reality	Partners for Implementation
Business area standards consistent with historic district	WNA review and update code and criteria to be consistent within historical area	WNA
	Complete the historic inventory	WNA
	Enforce code	City
Recruit neighborhood friendly specialty food store or restaurant, to Marketplace such as Trader Joe’s, New Seasons, Wild Oats, etc.	Survey and petition community citizens regarding type of business (completed)	WNA
	Proposal developed and submitted to Trader Joe’s	WNA
	Recruit business that will be complementary to existing business	WNA; BINGO; Chamber
	Coordinate with Bolton NA for business planning in market areas to avoid redundancy	WNA
Transitional Zoning	Define the transitional zone incorporating business and residential uses	WNA
	Revise code language	City
Learn about funding options	Presentation on Local Improvement District, System Development Charges, Lottery, Tax Increment Financing, Street Grants, T 21, etc.	WNA and City
	Encourage West Linn to become a Certified Local Government to allow us to apply for grant funds from State Historic Preservation Office (SHIPO)	City SHIPO Tourism Development Council
Organize a Farmer’s Market	Create an action plan to organize a Farmer’s Market	WNA, BINGO, Chamber of Commerce
Develop a parking plan	Generate and review options to determine a site or other options	Local businesses, WNA, City

Business Taskforce Members: Chris Henry, Chris Ling, Javad Farza, Larry Tonks, Brad Willams, Clint Coleman, Stephanie Nicoletti, Jody Carson, David Lawrence

Goal #4: Communication and involvement with Willamette’s citizens.

Policy:

§ Willamette has an active Neighborhood Association that listens to all input, actively engages those impacted by decisions, employs behaviors that treat all with respect, and works collaboratively with City leaders to plan effectively.

Recommended action measures include:

§ The City has up-to-date information on the Web.

§ Willamette neighbors use the West Linn Tidings and the Metro West Linn segment of the Oregonian for news and information.

Recommended Action Measure:

Vision Element	Actions to create reality	Partners for Implementation
WNA Excellence	WNA supports a code of conduct for meetings that ensures that all input is welcome and treats all with respect and dignity	WNA
	Continue using email, web, surveys, and meetings	WNA
	Appoint a Communications Specialist for web updates and input to media.	WNA
Maintain and support our Taskforces	Each Task force will have a facilitator to ensure continuation	WNA
	Each Task force will be on the WNA email list	WNA

Goal # 5: Respectful use and care for the environment including the neighborhood, river, parks and trails.

Recommended action measures include:

- § The City and neighborhood support environmentally friendly solutions and recycling.
- § The City and neighborhood maintain Willamette's rivers, parks and connecting trails.
- § The City and neighborhood partner to develop the beauty and access of the Willamette Falls area.
- § The Willamette neighborhood has a trail system along the Willamette River.
- § Willamette is part of the systematic planning for West Linn Parks and Recreation.
- § Willamette has a dog park, family parks and sports fields.
- § The City and neighborhood try to save and actively plant trees and local flora throughout Willamette.
- § Field's Park will grow to both sides of Willamette Falls Drive.

Recommended Action Measure:

Vision Element	Actions to create reality	Partners for Implementation
Develop plan for the area of Willamette Falls including access / trail on the Willamette River	Develop a inter-neighborhood planning group to develop a vision and coordinated plan for the Willamette Falls area	WNA, BNA, SNA, Will. Falls Cultural Heritage Comm., League of Neighborhoods; WL Parks and Rec., PGE and West Linn Power
Implement West Linn Parks Master Plan	Work with WL Parks and Recreation	WNA
	Look at appropriate park usage	WNA for WL Parks and Rec.
	Continue to develop parks (neighborhood, city, athletic fields, trails)	WL Parks and Rec.
Support environmentally friendly solutions and recycling	Preserve wetlands and riparian areas	Follow the suggestions of West Linn Goal 5 recommendation

Parks Taskforce: Jay & Brita Zimmerman, David Carr, Karen Bettin, Pat Beisel, Vicki Handy-Dunstan, Kathi Haugen, Fran Soder, and Shelly Knight

Goal #6: Well thought out neighborhood planning that sustains the value of the community.

Policy:

- § Willamette uses transition zones between the historic and other business districts and the surrounding residential neighborhood.
- § Willamette’s freeway, neighborhood and business access is effective, efficient and safe for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Recommended action measures include:

- § Willamette has a neighborhood public transportation that focuses on connectivity
- § Development needs to be consistent with the value of the area.
- § Developers need to take ownership for impact to the infrastructure such as streets, sidewalks, schools, water, sewer, etc.
- § The City and the neighborhood will encourage development that sustains a livable environment with homes with lot sizes that add value and beauty to the neighborhood.
- § The City and the neighborhood will sponsor a farmers market
- § Utility lines are underground.

Recommended Action Measures:

Vision Element	Actions to create reality	Partners for Implementation
Create a master street/HWY/Transportation plan for anticipated growth of area. See specific recommended changes below	Ask for process recommendations and current planning from City	WNA, Trimet and City
Transit	Create two routes for bus 154: one for commuters and one for the daytime community	Trimet
Transitional Zoning	Define the transitional zone incorporating business and residential uses	WNA
	Revise code language	City

Recommended action measures involving changes to traffic:

1. Put a stop light at the off ramp from I-205 on the south side of the freeway.
2. Place a control or light at the intersection of 10th St. and 8th. Ave. (round-about or light)
3. Include the Thriftway property in the traffic flow to enhance the development potential of this property and other properties along the freeway.
4. Change the configuration of 10th Street at I-205 in accordance with the City's Transportation System Plan.
5. Use longer speed bumps, raised sidewalks and other traffic calming solutions to reduce speeding in Old Willamette.
6. Improve the ability to cross Tualatin River Bridge to get to the Park.
7. Create a park and ride lot for transit.

Neighborhood Planning & Traffic/Parking Taskforce Members: Larry Tonks, Stephanie Becker, Rae Henry, Pat Styles, Nancy Zauner, Shelly Knight, Beverly Lyons
 Non-motorized transit: Franny Heald, Edward Springman

Goal #7: Systemic and fiscally responsible long-term planning, working with the neighborhood, community, city, county, and state partners.

Recommended action measures include:

- § Changes in Willamette will occur in multiple “phases” that will eventually reach the neighborhood’s goals within financial and legal boundaries.
- § The City Planning Department and Willamette neighborhood are partners for effective planning in all of West Linn.
- § The Willamette neighbors abide by and actively influence improvement to the regulations, laws and initiatives that impact Willamette.

Recommended Action Measure:

Vision Element	Actions to create reality	Partners for Implementation
Partner with others in long term planning for phased implementation.	Build the tactical plan for the WNA Vision	WNA, City
	Reference and do not duplicate other City efforts in Willamette neighborhood planning	WNA, City
	Work collaboratively with other neighborhood associations and city departments, state and county agencies.	WNA, City of West Linn Neighborhood Associations, Metro, ODOT and others